In the Claims

Claims 1 – 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Original) A method of manufacturing an ASIC1a channel blocker comprising the steps of:

(a) obtain at least one *Psalmopoeus cambridgei* spider;

(b) obtaining venom from said spider by electrically milking said spider;

(c) separating toxins of said venom by reversed-phase chromatography;

(d) further separating components of said venom by cation exchange chromatography;

(e) recovering and isolating separated toxins of said venom; and

(f) combining said isolated toxin with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier such that the toxin is capable of functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker.

15. (Original) A substantially pure polypeptide functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker and comprising the following amino acid sequence:

EDCIPKWKGCVNRHGDCCEGLECWKRRRSFEVCVPKTPKT

and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof.

16. (Original) The substantially pure polypeptide defined in Claim 15 comprising the following amino acid sequence:

EDCIPKWKGCVNRHGDCCEGLECWKRRRSFEVCVPKTPKT.

17. (Original) The substantially pure polypeptide as defined in Claim 15, wherein the polypeptide has a calculated molecular weight of about 4689.

18. (Original) A substantially pure compound comprising the following amino acid sequence:

EDCIPKWKGCVNRHGDCCEGLECWKRRRSFEVCVPKTPKT.

19. (Original) A peptide isolated from the venom of the *Psalmopoeus cambridgei* spider and comprising the following amino acid sequence:

EDCIPKWKGCVNRHGDCCEGLECWKRRRSFEVCVPKTPKT.

20. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition containing a polypeptide comprising the following amino acid sequence:

EDCIPKWKGCVNRHGDCCEGLECWKRRRSFEVCVPKTPKT

or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

21. (Original) A composition functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker comprising at least one toxin extracted from the *Psalmopoeus cambridgei* spider, said at least one toxin being capable of functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker.

22. (Original) A composition as defined in Claim 15, wherein the effets of said at least one toxin are reversible.

23. (New) A substantially pure polypeptide functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker extracted from venom of South American tarantula *Psalmopoeus cambridgei.*

24. (New) A substantially pure polypeptide functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker having a calculated molecular weight of about 4689 Da.

25. (New) A substantially pure polypeptide functioning as an ASIC1a channel blocker comprising an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID No. 1 and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof.